

Attorney Docket No. 04132/LH

This paper is being submitted  
via EFS-Web on June 28, 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): S. YAMANAKA et al  
Serial No. : 10/803,231  
Confirm. No.: 5636  
Filed : March 17, 2004  
For : HOLLOW STEPPED SHAFT AND  
METHOD OF FORMING THE SAME  
Art Unit : 3725  
Examiner : BONK, TERESA

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not already paid, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any fees for which payment has not been submitted, or to credit any overpayments, to Account No. 06-1378.

**A M E N D M E N T**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed  
March 28, 2006, the term for response to which expires on  
June 28, 2006.

**Amendments to the Specification** are set forth on page 2 of  
this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are set forth in the listing of  
claims which begins on page 3 of this paper. Claims 1-5 are  
amended; claims 14, 16 and 17 are maintained; and claims 6-13,  
15, 18 and 19 are canceled.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.